



# **WHICH GLOBAL RESTAURANTS**

ARE CONTINUING TO CONFINE  
LAYING HENS TO CAGES?



AS INDUSTRIES OPEN UP FOLLOWING THE GLOBAL PANDEMIC, HOW CAN YOU BE SURE THAT **THE MONEY YOU SPEND ON A MEAL OUT ISN'T LINING THE POCKETS OF COMPANIES CRUELLY CONFINING LAYING HENS** TO CRAMPED CAGES, WITH LITTLE MORE SPACE THAN THE SIZE OF AN IPAD TO LIVE OUT THEIR LIVES?

THERE'S NO DOUBT THAT THE RESTAURANT SECTOR WAS HIT HARD BY THE EVENTS OF THE PAST COUPLE OF YEARS, yet the global restaurant industry still accounted for an estimated \$1.2 trillion US in 2020, with this figure forecast to grow to as much as \$1.7 trillion US by 2027. All too often, profits are offset by the suffering of animals, so we're calling on the world's top 50 global restaurant chains to improve standards for one of the most statistically exploited animal raised for food, the laying hen.

# WHY CAGES ARE BEING CONFINED TO THE PAST

With over a whopping 6 billion laying hens suffering in cage confinement around the world, moving from caged to cage-free systems is one of the easiest welfare improvements for producers to make and is often the foundation of a company's animal welfare journey. Therefore, by working on freeing laying hens from cages, we can alleviate a vast amount of suffering for the greatest number of animals through the smallest of changes for companies. Thanks to a surge in companies making cage-free commitments, the demand for cage-free eggs has increased and the cost is decreasing, with a number of the top global restaurant companies leading the way by implementing cage-free egg policies on a global scale.

Public consensus proves that cages MUST become a thing of the past and legislative progress is happening at a rapid rate. Earlier this year, the European Commission voted in favor of phasing out cages across the entire European Union with cages poised to be banned in Europe by 2027. In June this year, Nevada became the ninth US state to ban cages for egg-laying chickens with California's cage ban going into effect at the beginning of next year. Put simply, any company located in California that is not cage-free by January 1st will be breaking the law. Restaurant companies who fall behind with their

cage-free progress will be subject to heavy scrutiny, not only from their stakeholders and peers, but from law-makers themselves.

Consumers are voting with their feet too. In a survey conducted for the ASPCA, 77% of consumers said they are concerned about the welfare of animals raised for food, with this translating to loyal restaurant customers positively reacting to global restaurant companies working to improve the welfare of animals in their supply chains.

## DO SOME REGIONS OF THE WORLD MATTER LESS?

With global cage-free egg policies becoming the new standard, why are companies falling behind their peers by only applying policies in certain countries? For example, Subway has cage-free egg commitments throughout Europe and America, yet because it doesn't have a truly global commitment in place, its cage-free egg sourcing policies in the Middle East and countries like China and Japan fall far short of its competitors who do have such a commitment.

For companies who are yet to make a global cage-free egg commitment, it begs the question: why don't all hens in your supply chain deserve to be free from a cage? And not only that, but don't your customers deserve a commitment to better standards, no matter where they live in the world?



## GLOBAL RESTAURANTS LEADING THE WAY

With momentum on the cage-free egg issue happening at a rapid rate, a staggering 2000 companies have now announced 100% cage-free egg policies, including some of the world's largest and most influential restaurant brands. More and more restaurant companies are realising that going cage-free is not just of benefit to countless animals, but to the company itself. The benefits are abundant and it's a move that stakeholders will support, often with the benefits of improving welfare far outweighing the small cost it takes to do so.

At the end of last year, we worked with Restaurant Brands International (RBI), who became the first major restaurant group to commit to a truly global **cage-free egg policy**. And just a couple of months ago, Yum! Brands, the world's largest restaurant chain with over 50,000 locations, **committed** to completely remove cages from its global supply chain by 2030, as well as annual progress reporting. This was met with a positive public response not only from not-for-profits, but from consumers and the industry too.

They joined these top global companies, who are just a few who have committed to go cage-free globally by 2025.



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## COMPANIES UNDERPERFORMING ON THEIR CAGE-FREE EGG COMMITMENTS

Disappointingly, the gap is widening between restaurant companies producing global cage-free egg commitments and those who aren't, with some of the world's largest and most profitable restaurant companies not only refusing to make a global cage-free egg commitment, but refusing to engage in meaningful discussions around phasing out the cruelest practices in their supply chain.

### WE ARE HOLDING THEM ACCOUNTABLE.

It's only right for restaurant companies to be upfront about their unwillingness to accommodate the change and address cruelty issues in their supply chains. With cage-free systems becoming the industry standard, customers and key stakeholders deserve transparency when it comes to the cruelty of confining a laying hen in a cage for her entire life, and we're shining a light on the global restaurant company's worst offenders in this report.

We're inviting these restaurant groups to join the rapidly growing list of companies working with us to make small changes with big results in improving their welfare standards.



**CAGE-FREE COMMITMENT STANDARDS:**

-  Global Cage-Free Egg Commitment
-  No Global Cage-Free Egg Commitment

# THE TOP GLOBAL LEADING RESTAURANT CHAINS

	COMPANY	RANKING
1	YUM! Brands KFC Pizza Hut Taco Bell Habit Burger	
2	RBI Burger King Tim Horton Popeyes	
3	Le Pain Quotidien	
4	JAB Holding Company Bruegger's Caribou Coffee Einstein Bros Bagels Espresso House Krispy Kreme Panera Bread Paradise Bakery and Cafe Peet's Coffee Pret a Manger	
5	Inspire Brands Dunkin' Arby's Baskin-Robbins Buffalo Wild Wings	
6	Alsea SAB de CV	
7	Papa John's International	
8	Costa Coffee	
9	Starbucks	
10	Groupe Le Duff Brioche Dorée	

11	Focus Brands <b>Auntie Anne's</b> <b>Carvel</b> <b>Cinnabon</b> <b>Jamba</b> <b>McAlister's Deli</b> <b>Moe's Southwest Grill</b> <b>Schlotzsky's</b>	
12	Groupe Holder <b>Paul</b>	
13	<b>Chipotle Mexican Grill</b>	
14	<b>Wagamama</b>	
15	<b>Nando's</b>	
16	<b>Telepizza</b>	
17	<b>The Cheesecake Factory</b>	
18	Bloomin' Brands <b>Outback Steakhouse</b>	
19	<b>Panda Express</b>	
20	Darden Restaurants <b>Olive Garden</b> <b>Bahama Breeze</b> <b>Longhorn Steakhouse</b> <b>Eddie V's</b> <b>Capital Grille</b> <b>Seasons 52</b> <b>Cheddar's</b> <b>Yard House</b>	
21	<b>Subway</b>	
22	<b>Denny's</b>	
23	<b>Domino's Pizza</b>	
24	<b>DineBrands</b>	
25	<b>Five Guys</b>	
26	<b>Fiesta Restaurant Group, Inc.</b>	

27	Wendy's	
28	A&W Restaurants	
29	Brinker International Chili's Grill & Bar	
30	CKE Restaurant Holdings Carl's Jr Hardee's	
31	McDonald's	
32	Chick-fil-A	
33	Dairy Queen	
34	MTY Food Group, Inc.	
35	MOS Burger	
36	Little Caesars	
37	Ruth's Chris Steak House	
38	Jollibee Foods Corp.	
39	Texas Roadhouse	
40	Long John Silver's	
41	AmRest Holdings SE	
42	Create Restaurants	
43	85C Bakery Cafe	
44	Pepper Food Service Co., Ltd.	

\*Public-facing policies hosted on company websites ensure companies remain committed and can be held accountable  
Source: Technomic's Top 500 Chain Restaurant Report  
If you think this information is incorrect, please contact us at:  
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